

# THE BELL RINGER

Montgomery Bell Academy

4001 Harding Road Nashville, TN 37205

28 August 2006

Vol. LXIII, No. 1

## The Tale of a Boomerang Champion

by Jay Milam  
News Editor

This summer, Coach Matt Golenor competed and placed second, individually in the World Boomerang Championships, called the World Cup, in Asahikawa, Japan. National teams from all over the world competed, and hundreds of throwers also competed in the Individual Championship.

Despite a slow start, the U.S. team also finished a respectable second place to the Germans in the team competition. According to Coach Golenor, "We came back really strong...and by the end we were definitely performing better than anybody else. The Team Championship consists of little events that test different things, like speed, accuracy, time in the air, trick catching, and distance." There are also relay races where the throwers run to a marker, throw the boomerang at least 30 meters, catch it,

and run back to tag their teammate. Super-Catch is an event that involves four teammates. "One guy throws an MTA (maximum time aloft) boomerang that can stay in the air for a long time. While the MTA boomerang is in the air, there are three other people throwing fast boomerangs...and they try to get as many catches as they can before the MTA boomerang comes down. The team with the highest score wins the event, but if the MTA is dropped or goes out of bounds, the team gets a zero for the round," he explains. The last main team event is an endurance relay where the competitors throw Fast-Catch for five minutes, and whoever has the most catches wins.

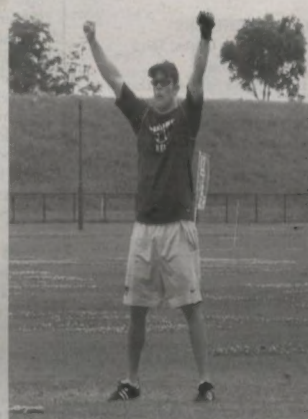
"Individual events are similar to team, but you have Fast-Catch, endurance (throwing fast boomerangs for five minutes), trick catches, Australian-Round (where you get points for distance, accuracy, and catching), MTA throwing, and accuracy throwing," Coach

Golenor further explains. The first-place finisher in each event gets one point, and

the thrower with the least points at the end wins. This year, the German Fridolin Frost won his third world title, but Coach Golenor hopes to change that in 2008, when the championships will be held in Seattle. Coach Golenor goes to win, but more importantly, to have fun. "Going to the World Championships is like going to the greatest family reunion times one-hundred. It's a really addicting

atmosphere. The competition is great, but the people are just as much fun."

With his busy schedule, Coach Golenor doesn't have much time to practice, but he does manage to squeeze in practice about two times a week. He practices some events on the soccer field, while he goes to the park to practice other events, which require more space. "I've been throwing for a while, so it's not so much the physical aspect anymore. It's more the mental aspect. I need to put myself



Mr. Golenor rejoices

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## Guys and Dolls in Full Swing

By Chase Altenbern  
Features Editor

Where have all the thespians gone? Where are our actors, singers, and dancers? Just like the football team, the cast of the 2006 Harpeth Hall/MBA musical has been practicing. The actors' stage, though, is located in the Paschall Theater, and the actors are rehearsing during August to ensure a spectacular performance in early September.

This year we are putting on a production of *Guys and Dolls*, the classic tale of 1930's New York City, as told through song and dance. This endeavor has not been limited to the summer, but auditions were held at the end of the school year in May and directors and choreographers were working all summer long to prepare for the rehearsals which began in August.

Being a member of the cast is like signing away your life for the month of August. We rehearse from 9 am to 7 pm nonstop, although some may have small breaks throughout the day. However, these long days become some of the most exciting of the summer, as everyone

enjoys being around each other, and there is always time for some fun. Who says dancing isn't fun anyway?

There is definitely a social appeal to the musicals, as it is the most collaborative project between Montgomery Bell and Harpeth Hall every year. One Harpeth Hall junior stated, "I like having rehearsal in the summer because it is fun to see everyone and get

excited about the musical, but I really hate leaving my pool friends and being inside all the time...I always lose my tan!" So, it can be deduced that suffering is part of putting on the show!!! There are actually more girls than boys in the show, and almost everyone returns from year to year to reunite with old buddies. The rehearsal period is always something to look

forward to throughout everyone's summers.

So, what do we do? Well, we start off learning all of the songs in the first week with none other than Dr. Cassel. As the music director, he helps work on solos with the leading roles and teaches all voice ranges and harmonies in the larger numbers. Also, Dr. Fuller will begin to block out the few true scenes within the play. Dialogue in musicals is typically restricted to the main characters and acts as a way of telling the story and showing the plot progression between all of the songs and numbers.

The next step in the process is with the choreographer, Stephanie Hamilton, a dance instructor at Harpeth Hall. She helps to block all the numbers, some of which require merely walking to certain places at the right time, while others are as specific as what angles your fingers should be pointed at every moment. Without a doubt, the choreography can be very difficult and



Chase Altenbern, Tyler Yarbrough, Everitte Barbee (l to r) rehearsing a scene

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## THE BELL RINGER

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Letters to the Editor are encouraged, and can be delivered to its office, the Faculty Advisors, the Editors, or sent to [bellringer@fc.montgomerybell.com](mailto:bellringer@fc.montgomerybell.com) (simply type 'Bell Ringer' into First Class). These letters must be signed; The Bell Ringer neither publishes anonymous submissions of opinions or articles nor permits individuals to remain unidentified unless protected by other rules of confidentiality at MBA. Letters will be edited for length and clarity.

The staff of The Bell Ringer prepares all copy, headlines, and photographs at Montgomery Bell Academy. Franklin Web Printing in Franklin, Tennessee, prints the paper.

## From the President

Stockton Beveridge  
Student Body President

Hey everybody! Welcome back to MBA for the 2006-2007 year!

I want to share with all of you how excited the student council is about this new school year, and I hope that with the help of all of you we can make the most out of the next two semesters.

The members of the student council from the senior class are Lucas (Big Diese) Carter, Carver Morgan, William Herbert, and me. Though on the surface such a star-studded cast might appear intimidating, both in looks and demeanor, rest assured we are here to work for you. We can't put your ideas into motion unless they are communicated to us, so please don't hesitate to talk to your class representatives, or drop any of the seniors an e-mail.

Also, let us know if you would like to help out with student-council events, the new spirit club (we still need a name), etc....we would love to have you.

Thanks, and let's make this a great year.

## The Beginning of the End

Alec McGuffey  
Editor-in-Chief

Well, we made it. Summer is over, and the collared shirts are being tucked in for the first time in three months. Senior year is upon us at last. I remember the morning of ninth-grade registration back in

2003. Mr. Gioia welcomed us into the high school, and we were told that we would be seniors before we could blink. The chance to rule the school and to craft an incredible year, not just for ourselves but for the entire school, seemed decades away. At that point, we weren't even sure if we would survive the next three years leading up to the pinnacle of 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

We had no idea what to expect on our first day as actual high school students. We had heard the horror stories of what lay in wait for us around every turn: teachers lurking in the shadows, ready to jump out and catch us with our shirt-tails out, or seniors hiding outside of the lunch hall, waiting for straggling freshmen unprepared for the shock of walking around campus alone. Yet the first day, week, month, and quarter passed with only the occasional demerit dealt. There were no mysterious freshman disappearances, and nobody was expelled for an un-tucked Polo. Freshman year flew by.

Then came sophomore year and the notorious research paper. We struggled to read those thousands of pages of literature and biographies in just a few short months, but once again, the year disappeared in a flash. Junior year, we were told, would be the most difficult; AP courses and the beginning of the college process were among a few of the challenges we faced. College guides began to fill our bookshelves, and we struggled for every possible GPA boost. But amazingly, graduation for the class of '06 came and went, and our status as "seniors" was sealed.

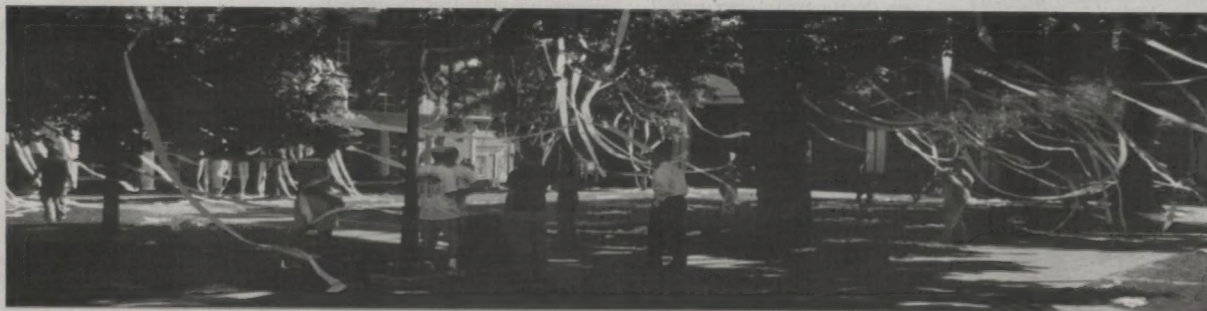
Where did those three years go? I can remember the first day of freshman year as if it were yesterday, but when I think back on each respective grade of high school, my mind is flooded with an overwhelming amount of memories: exams, Homecomings, themes, football games, class trips, and so many more. The past three years may have flown by, but I know that I will never forget them.

As a freshman, I viewed many of the seniors as practically godlike. I never thought that I would actually be one someday. But here I am. Here we are. This is our year. This is our year to set the example for the rest of the school to follow. When we depart from MBA next June, we want to leave behind a school that we can be proud of. Future senior classes will model their actions on how we conduct ourselves this year. I know that I would like to be remembered as a member of one of the most influential senior classes ever. So let's strap on the backpacks, enjoy those off-campus lunches, and have a senior year that we can be proud of. Roll Red Roll.



Celebrating 140 Years

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## MBA Gets A New Language Lab

by Donesh Ferdowsi  
Staff Writer

First plasma in the cafeteria, then some turf, next an observatory, now a truly digital language lab!!!

Over the last few years, MBA has skyrocketed into a new age of modernization and technology, and, until

Never again will a Spanish student be denied access to a French lab period. Two teacher stations in the back "big brother" observation deck mean that there can be two different language classes going on at the same time, meaning labs will no longer be segregated. So when you are explaining to that curious parent or skeptical student why MBA is as awesome as everyone knows you know it is, be sure to lay down the facts: our stuff is better than everyone else's. During the upcoming year, one reality will without doubt remain true: it's an undeniably exciting time for everyone not taking Latin.



Sorry, Latin Scholars

now, our claim to fame, high-tech or otherwise, has been our outstanding athletic program, confirmed by our brand new artificial-turf field.

But times have changed. From this point forward, when someone asks what's so special about MBA, the immediate response will be, and should be, "Our mind-boggling language lab."

Being ten times more expensive than labs other schools boast about makes ours just that much better-ten times better to be exact (do the math, Pat, it works out). Equipped with the same software used by the military to train terrorist-hunting translators, our twenty-five new Dell computers completely digitize the learning process and are probably more effective than interaction with real people.

The nightmare that was the cassette has come to an end. Never again will an MBA student hit the "record" button instead of "drill" and have to redo the whole lab. Never again will a student be reduced to doodling or napping to pass agonizing minutes, for we are entering a new era of machines equipped with Minesweeper and Solitaire. Even our listening-comprehension, multiple-choice quizzes will be digital. The computers administer the tests and automatically grade them.

### 2006-2007 Honor Council Officers

**9th Grade**  
Alex Apple  
Jordan Herring

**10th Grade**  
Brandon Dockery  
Brian Swenson

**11th Grade**  
Austin Branstetter  
Andrew Harris  
Clay Money

**12th Grade**  
Tipper Austin  
Kyle Davis  
Andrew Triggs  
Donesh Ferdowsi

Feel free to contact any of these officers if you ever have questions concerning the honor code.

## Ray's Ramblings Adventures in Nashville

by Ray Henson  
Staff Writer

This summer has been one of the most exciting times of my life. I spent all 12 weeks here in the wonderful city of Nashville, the city where dreams come true.

My exciting days would pass mostly like this: I would lounge around my house wearing a minimal amount of clothing and watching all of the compelling dramas that play during the day time, sometimes even waking up to *The Price is Right*. I would then go outside to my deck for a little tanning.

After 3 hours in the sun and my future filled with melanoma and skin cancer assured, I would go back inside to watch more TV, or maybe if I got really bored, check to see if I had anything to throw at the mailman. After starting with water balloons, I moved onto more perishable foods like lasagna and cream spinach that would really leave a mark.

Another way I passed the time

was tempting squirrels with nuts tied to fishing line, and then dragging the nuts around the yard. Or if that failed, I would place a giant pile of seeds in my yard and then defend it with spare fireworks.

At night, since few people were in town, I would usually wander around Horseshoe Bend, dropping in on whomever I knew and eating their food. Then after mooching off everyone I could think of, I would return home to watch more of the telly until I fell asleep. I believe I repeated this entire process about 80 times. Overall, I believe it was a very productive summer, one I will remember with fondness and nostalgia.



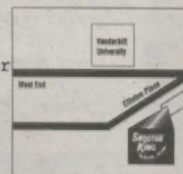
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# MBA Students Travel the Globe

## Anderson Treks to Middle Earth

by Michael Anderson  
Staff Writer

On June 8<sup>th</sup>, Hayes Arnold and I headed out from Nashville, excited to be the first-ever American exchange students to Lindisfarne College in Hastings/Napier, NZ. We had both applied to be exchange students earlier in the school year and were both very excited to learn that we were to go to one of the most beautiful places in the world. So, after leaving Nashville, we first headed to Los Angeles on a four-hour flight. After a two-hour layover, we got on a Qantas flight (an Australian airline) and departed for Auckland. I don't wish the length of this flight on anybody. Twelve hours on a plane gets tedious. One can stand only so much time with one's own thoughts, especially in a seat barely sixteen inches across.

After we landed in Auckland, it was five in the morning, local time, and we had a two-hour layover. At around seven o'clock we got on a small plane and went to Napier/Hastings, New Zealand. Jake Firman's and Antony D'Esposito's families met us at the airport to take us to their homes, where we would be staying.

I stayed with Jake Firman and Hayes stayed with Antony D'Esposito,

both of whom came to Nashville to visit MBA in April. Hayes and I led pretty

much the normal lives of New Zealand people. We got up, went to school, participated in classes, and even had to wear the horrendous uniforms. We took pretty much the same classes that we took in our junior year at MBA. We both took Physics, English, Math, and Media

Studies. However, I took Music/Music Theory, while Hayes took Technology. At the end of our stay there, Hayes had made a model of two Jima out of scrap metal.

We showed up at exactly the right time to go on a trip to Auckland (New Zealand's largest city) with our



Michael feeds a lamb.

Media Studies class and got to miss school a few times to see sights and even go bungee-jumping in Taupo, a city based around a volcanic crater lake. All in all, we only experienced one full week of school.

We witnessed the Haka, which is a native Maori war dance designed to terrify opposing teams. The school's

sports teams perform the Haka before each match, and the whole school performs one to honor different people. During one of their assemblies, Hayes and I were called up to perform some music, and while we were waiting, the school performed the Haka to honor one of the students who had won first in a debating tournament. Hayes and I had been asked to perform some music during their assembly, and we decided to play some music from the South, namely *Freebird*.

At the end of our trip, we got to experience a week of their winter holidays and went to Wellington (New Zealand's capital) with Mr. Findlay, one of our Lindisfarne teachers. While in Wellington, we saw *Stomp* and met the American ambassador. After returning home, I stayed with Antony and Hayes for the last week of our trip. Before we knew it, a whole month was over, and it was time to go back to Nashville.

I highly recommend applying for the New Zealand exchange. You will get to see sights that some people never get to see and will get to visit some of the most beautiful landscapes in the world. Also, you will bring back some fond memories of the trip along with a new understanding of the world at large.

## Heyden Explores Europe

by Nick Heyden  
Staff Writer

This summer I was fortunate enough to travel, through a generous grant from the Walter Hale family, to the Czech Republic and participate in a summer study program. I studied political science and environmental issues. It was a life-changing opportunity to see the world, and especially to talk with people from all over Europe.

Nothing was ever exactly earth-shatteringly different, but I was surprised, nevertheless, to discover different opinions on matters I had considered constant. For instance, I consider buildings and institutes of and

exceeding 100 years to be old. At our own school we have demolished buildings 50 years of age because they were getting to be old.

I was speaking with my Czech roommate about how my school had numerous traditions and, perhaps, stricter regulations because it was pretty old.

"Yeah," he said barely looking up from his fantasy novel, "my school is also somewhat old."

"Like how old?" I asked interestedly, intent on ignoring the omnipresent lack of air-conditioning in the dorms that amplified the muggy heat.

"Around..." he paused looking up thoughtfully from his book, "400 hundred years in age!" He asked with a tone reminiscent of a competitive edge. "How old is yours?"

I sat thoughtfully for a moment, before quietly replying "Martin, its highly unlikely that my school would be older than yours, because your school is actually significantly older than my country."

"No!" he shouted as if I had uttered some egregious blasphemy. Then, "Wait..." he began looking off to the side.

"1776 and 2006" I said "Easy math."

"Oh yea, well... I guess so."

Another time, I was walking around town with some friends to sightsee at a few local churches in the Olomouc area. We entered the consecutive sets of double doors into a small but beautiful, regional church. The windows were paneled stained-glass, and it seemed that just about everything was worked with gold or silver or some other lustrous metal. All of the foreign students exhaled softly in awe.

"Isn't it rather... beautiful... with the glass?" said a Slovak girl, in the British accent that European schools teach.

"Yea, look at the sloping architecture that lets the light in," spoke a German girl.

"I quite like the stone columns near the centre..." said another.

The comments continued in this manner, seemingly avoiding what I found most noticeable.

"Does no one actually care that everything is covered in or made entirely of gold?" I asked skeptically.

Everybody looked around and sort of shrugged their shoulders and proceeded mulling around the church, unconcerned by the abundance of valuable metals. I suppose different places breed different interests.

I hope that these events portray a sort of flavor of view-changing experiences I had. Ultimately, though, words are a poor substitute for experience.



Nick discovers a strange European custom.

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## Students Tour Colleges

by Patrick Mehta  
Staff Writer

The college tour during June of this summer, 2006, was for the most part an exciting experience. There were dull times, though, when I had to play the "assassin" game (you stab people with pens and "unflipped" cellphones, pretending that they're knives) to keep myself entertained, as any young man about to consider college would do. The tour guides could be interesting. Amanda, the tour guide at Muhlenberg College, would shout "Go mules! Whaa!" every time she'd find a reference to her rugby team. Muhlenberg is affiliated with the Lutheran church and has a strong divinity program, but she'd always play down the religious factor.

Since colleges are broadly quite similar, following are some quirks of various colleges we visited. Villanova only buys "worker-friendly" coffee, and one of the buildings is solar-powered. Lehigh boasts that you lose weight because all your classes are on the side of a mountain. Haverford, the first college we

visited, was placed in the middle of a forest, but the tour guide assured us that it was a quick 45-minute ride to Philadelphia or New York. "But," the guide said, "the dorm living was pretty cool, so people didn't really leave the campus much."

The University of Pennsylvania was the most unique college in the region since it was right in the center of Philadelphia. It offers 400 clubs, 120 different languages, and over ten majors in most departments. For some reason almost every college we visited liked to show off the fact that if students wanted to, they could start a "Milk and Cookies Club." And the tour guides would always walk backwards. They'd remind us to warn them if they were going to run into a pole and then make up some story about how they fell in a gutter a week ago.

The New York schools changed this repetitive trend though, and Columbia was the first liberal arts college that didn't seem like a repeat of high school. The tour guide was really interested in studying business and had originally applied to only Columbia thinking he'd be a part of a really prestigious business program. When he got there, he realized that Columbia was in fact a liberal arts college, but he was



The NYU Library: Now with suicide-proof glass!

reassured by the variety of programs in the economics department.

NYU has a drastically different layout, with no campus and no core curriculum. The library is twelve stories high and newly renovated, with new suicide-proof glass. On our way to the Washington schools, we saw Johns Hopkins (which looks exactly like MBA) and Princeton.

The Washington schools were arranged like the colleges in New York except the atmosphere was "less rushed." The schools offered international opportunities in economics, history, and topics unique to D.C. All the schools we visited on the college tour had their own style, and visiting them will, at the very least, let you know which ones you definitely don't want to attend, thereby saving much money in application fees.

## MBA/HH Musical

Continued from page 1

extremely frustrating, especially for the guys who are not as, ummm, deft.

We have been working hard, and as the opening of school approaches, we are beginning to see the final product come out of our long hours of meticulous rehearsal. *Guys and Dolls* is the perfect show for a collaborative musical. It has been critically acclaimed as "Why Broadway was born!" and "The perfect musical comedy." The productions of this show are always a hit and a spectacular attraction to attend. The musicals never fail to have an edge of that beyond-belief professional quality in them, which seems so impressive especially coming from a high school cast.

So be sure to get your tickets before they sell out. And, by the way, it's the perfect date for you and that lady friend. Chicks dig it.



Author Bill Bryson is a hit!

## All School Book Enters Year Two

By Jesse Colton  
Staff Writer

Last summer, 2005, MBA began a tradition of reading a school-wide novel, starting with the heavily discussed *Life of Pi*. This year the administration and faculty set up a committee to decide which of three novels the school would read: *Into Thin Air*, *The Count of Monte Cristo*, and *A Walk in the Woods*.

Students voted for one of the three during an advisory period last spring. Dr. Fuller, a member of the committee in favor of Bryson's novel, explains that they chose *A Walk in the Woods* because of the humor and the "summer feel" in the novel. Mr. Gioia also noted at the student leadership meeting that this book offers the potential for more environmental discussion and awareness.

The novel itself is basically a story about Bryson's experiences hiking the Appalachian Trail with an old friend, Katz, with bits of history and environmental facts relating to the trail itself scattered throughout the novel.

The main storyline is an entertaining read, with Katz the main source of comic relief, and Bryson the

main source of sarcasm and witticisms. The author comes across sometimes as a bit of a snob and somewhat cruel when he occasionally tries to be funny at the expense of a fellow traveler on the Trail.

The historical and ecological parts, although interesting, proved tiresome for this summer reader. Overall, though, the swift narrative and laugh-out-loud humor override any unwanted drowsiness which could have been caused by the novel.

After speaking with several students here on the Hill, I found that Bryson's novel is a far more popular choice than last year's *Life of Pi* and has gotten good reviews from almost everyone surveyed. In fact, about the only complaint this writer has heard is that the cover of the book is deceiving; Bryson never sees a bear throughout the entire novel!

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## The Return of the Senior Car Bio

By Tyler Yarbrough  
Staff Writer

Car of the Month:  
Harlan Dodson's 1979 Dodge  
Adventurer



Harlan's truck: Resting or broken down?

Harlan Dodson's 1979 Dodge Adventurer is one of the finest automobiles ever to grace the parking lots of Montgomery Bell Academy. Complete with a faded yellow paint job and matching rims, along with several bungee chords to hold together the rusty, dumpster-like bed, this truck has captured the imagination of the class of 2007 since its almost mystical appearance in the sophomore lot two long years ago. I sat down with Harlan Dodson himself to learn the innermost secrets hidden within this amazing vehicle. This is what he had to say:

**M:** So, Harlan, how many miles does your truck have under its hood?

**Harlan:** Right now it's at 270,300. I'm not sure how much longer it'll run.

**M:** So how many times does your car break down per month?

**H:** Well, it really depends on the season, but anywhere from 2-4 times per month. Summer and winter are the worst times. But a lot of times it just runs out of gas, because the gas gauge is broken, so I just have to guess when the tank is nearing empty.

**M:** How would you describe your truck in a word, and in a sentence...?

**H:** In a word... piece. In a sentence... my truck is a piece. I know this is going into the paper so I cleaned up my response. My real answer never would have been allowed to be published.

**M:** What would you say is the best thing about your truck?

**H:** Well, I can run into stuff and it really doesn't matter; nothing really damages this baby. And if you're trying to pull out, everyone will give me the right of way, because damage will occur to only one vehicle in a wreck, and it won't be mine. But other than that, this car really has no good features. What really sucks is that there's no power steering, so I have to

turn the wheel like 3 times just to make it around a corner.

**M:** Apparently a lot of stuff gets thrown into your truck bed. How often does that happen?

**H:** Pretty much every time I park somewhere, someone throws something into the bed of the truck. It's always interesting to see what I'll find back there.

**M:** What's been the most interesting thing you've ever found in your truck bed?

**H:** Well, let me jar my memory here. There's been a beer bottle in there. One time I found vomit back there... Oh, and there was a snake one time, that was

pretty kickass. And one time there was a piano bench back there, so I put it in the middle of the road and ran over it: psh hee hee hee.

**M:** So does your truck attract a lot of attention?

**H:** Yeah, I've been pulled over three times and drug searched without probable cause. I told the cops that my parents are both lawyers and if they ever did it again I would sue them. It was great.

After this interview, the question lingering on my mind was this: when is this car going to break down? We may never know. Because of a combination of the unbelievable craftsmanship of the Dodge Corporation, which has brought you other fine cars such as Martin Thompson's fabled *Baby Blue*, and because of Harlan's amazingly adept driving, this car may grace the parking lots of MBA at least for the coming months of the 2006-2007 school year.

## Boomerang

Continued from p. 1

in a position to succeed and get in the right frame-of-mind."

For the 2008 championships, the U.S. team is taking a whole new outlook on the selection process. "We're going back to how we did it when we were successful. It's all about the team. It's not about the person. We are taking those six people that are committed to making the team the best." Coach Golenor reflects, "This funny little stick that comes back to you when you throw it has been my ticket to places I've never been before and people I would've never had the chance to meet, and it's been an amazing adventure for me."

## MBA Students Around the World



(Left to right) Juniors Bennett Davidson, Morey Hill, and Zan Berry with Mr. Sawyer, before heading off to Germany



Senior Jackson Bull filming *Laugh If You Want* at film camp in New York



Senior Russell Mack rustles up some grub



Gentry Smith and Travis Brannon looking manly on exchange in Australia



Everitte Barbee clearly has not seen *Snakes on a Plane* (review on page 11)

Have any amusing pictures? Send them to *The Bell Ringer* for a chance to see them in print!





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## Young Football Team Steps Up

By Jeff Eberle  
Sports Editor

The 2006 MBA football team has many holes to fill. A number of last year's starters have graduated, and as a result, several questions arise for a very young football team.

Many first-year starters need to step up in order for the team to be competitive. Christian Waddey replaces Andy Snyder as king of the backfield and has already made his presence felt with two touchdowns in the opening game against Dunbar. According to Christian, "It was exciting putting points on the board to help the team win."

Ben Bartholomew, Alfonza Knight, and Clayton Foster will have to replace the veteran linebacker crew of Parker Prevost, Luke Brown, and Daniel Hightower, and who will power clean guys in the absence of Michael Swett?

Senior linebacker Zack Adkins commented, "Our success as a football team absolutely depends on our first-year starters stepping up and making big plays. If we want the team to run smoothly, the first-year guys need to play at a high level of intensity and play at the same level as the returning guys."

So far so good for the Big Red, as they are coming off of a 24-7 "beat-down" against Dunbar. MBA was hitting on all cylinders, including special teams, with junior wide receiver Jas Raider returning a punt 73 yards for an MBA touchdown and Clayton Foster nailing a 35-yard field goal, putting the Big Red ahead for good. Zack Adkins also

said, "The Dunbar game was a good indicator of where we are in terms of skill level, physically and mentally. I hope we can improve, because the teams we play will only get better."

There are numerous examples at the collegiate and professional levels where rookies played like seasoned veterans. In 2003, there was much controversy as to who would replace Carson Palmer as the starting quarterback for the University of Southern California. Matt Leinart emerged the starter and led USC to a national championship. In just his rookie season, Ben Roethlisberger led the Pittsburgh Steelers to the AFC championship game. Remember Kurt Warner? After Trent Green went down with a season-ending injury, Warner carried the Rams to their first Super Bowl.

MBA hopes their young, talented players can make that kind of impact right away. If they do, another state title just might be in the works.

## Summer Vacation...or Not

By Johnny Mishu  
Staff Writer

It all started back in June. Coach Sutton and Coach Redmond pushed us to the ultimate limit of physical exhaustion, lifting at 8:00 AM, then running at 9:30. The running included 20, 80, 20's for skill players and 20, 60, 20's for the front seven...all in preparation for the grueling two weeks of two-a-days that would inevitably arrive during the hottest two weeks of the summer, July 31<sup>st</sup> - August 12<sup>th</sup>.

Two-a-days are so demanding that all players have to pass the conditioning test in order to be allowed to

participate in practice. Passing the conditioning test may be easy for some, but it is truly spectacular when Preston Bailey, at 6' 5" and 320 pounds, runs sixteen 80-yard sprints, each one in fourteen seconds. Once we all pass the conditioning test on Friday, we rest in preparation for the struggle ahead.

Piercing our ears at way-too-early a.m., the alarm clock tells us it's time to get up. Waking up early is no fun at all, but rising to go through two hours of torture is truly one of the many gruesome tasks of MBA football two-a-days. A healthy yet sufficient breakfast consisting of a bowl of oatmeal, fruit, and a bagel follows. At 6:30, off we go to team meetings.

After the 7:00 a.m. meetings, we strap on the pads and head out to the field. As soon as we stick our heads through the double doors, we can feel our nemesis envelop us. What an astonishing coincidence it is that the most unbearable heat in years happens to appear right during the middle of two-a-days! We walk to the new turf field, trying to convince each other that this heat is survivable, using clichés like "It's not that hot out here" or "It was hotter yesterday" or "It's not the heat, it's the humidity."

When we arrive at our stage, Tommy Owen Stadium, the temperature climbs about ten degrees. Maybe it's so much hotter because the adrenaline kicks in for the inception of practice.

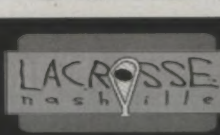
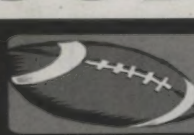
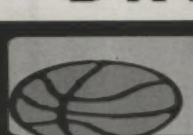
Nope. It seems hotter because the field is hotter. Our new field is great. We can



MBA takes the field against Dunbar

Continued on page 10

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## MBA Debate Team Hopes for Successful Year

By Harrison Brown  
Staff Writer

Starting from MBA's finalist finish in the NFL nationals this summer, the 2006-2007 debate team has established a rapidly-expanding platform for success.

With six seniors and several juniors still honing and toning their skills, this year's varsity team has an excellent opportunity to provide the appropriate research and argument development to compete with this year's strongest teams such as Greenhill (TX), Glenbrook North (IL), Woodward (GA), and Westminster (GA).

August 14<sup>th</sup> of this summer marked the beginning of the debate pre-season, when debaters, having finished their summer study at different institutes such as Northwestern, Michigan, Dartmouth, and Miami of Ohio, compiled their evidence and met the new coach: Ms. Nicole Serrano. Ms. Serrano joined the MBA faculty as a debate coach from Lexington, Massachusetts and has been regarded by MBA students as one of the

best judges on the circuit for several years.

In late September, the team will divide for the two opening tournaments, Wake Forest and Greenhill. This year, we hope Mr. Risen's fantasy will be fulfilled—that MBA debaters will win these two tournaments in the same weekend.

Unlike last year's topic of civil liberties, this year's topic of national service is much easier to negate, seeing that it is much easier to defend the idea that calls for national service, such as a draft, is unnecessary than it is to defend the idea that abusive invasions of privacy, such as unnecessarily raiding immigrant homes, is an effective element of governmental policy.

In addition to debate, the MBA forensics team is developing its strategies and arguments before the opening tournaments. The Lincoln-Douglas and extemporaneous speaking teams unfortunately lack the expansive number of participants to develop their strategies. These teams have proved, though, that despite their smaller size, their work ethic is enough to produce success. John Moynihan, for instance, qualified for the NFL nationals and achieved an impressive record as a sophomore.

Clearly, the MBA debate team has plenty of work ahead, but every member of the team is optimistic and dedicated to bringing the school many victories during 2006-2007.

## Scott Examines Landis

By Scott Schwartz  
Features Editor

Floyd Landis, 2006 Tour de France winner, was found to have an elevated ratio of testosterone to epitestosterone in one of the eight drug tests conducted days after his victory. If these results stand, Landis will be forced to give up his yellow jersey and face a two-year ban from the sport. While these results seem undeniable, some other facts must be considered.

Landis's testosterone level was not high, but rather his epitestosterone level was low, which caused the high T/E ratio. There are many causes for low epitestosterone levels; improper hydration, medications, and alcohol consumption (Landis admitted he consumed Jack Daniels the night before the positive drug test). Drug doping can cause an increase in testosterone, but not a decrease in epitestosterone.

Over the course of the Tour de France, Landis underwent drug tests eight times, and seven of the times his T/E ratio was normal. This suggests an abnormality on only one day of the race. It is



Floyd smirks for the camera.

impossible for drug doping to have an immediate effect, for the body can only respond to months of doping. So it seems difficult to believe that these abnormal levels directly affected his performance.

Also, let's not forget that his name is Floyd—a name synonymous with innocence and honesty. In addition, he was born and raised in a conservative Mennonite community. Mennonites are just a hair more "modern" than the Old Order Amish, who don't even use

*Continued on the next page*

## To the Lindsley Ruth Award and Its Recipients...



ROLL RED!!!



## A Taste of India in Nashville

by Kevin Thomas  
Entertainment Editor

Ever get tired of the traditional American meal of a hamburger and French fries? If you are like me and hate most fast-food and chain restaurants, stick your nose into one of the ethnic restaurants that I am reviewing. As Kay West, food critic of the *Nashville Scene*, says about the Cheesecake Factory, "There's a reason they call it a factory!" Therefore, stay away from that place and check out these fine ethnic restaurants of Nashville.

### The Taste of India - Indian Cuisine

The first item that you are served is *papadam* with three different sauces. Think of *papadam* as the Indian version of potato chips; it is crunchy and tasty, but it lacks the greasy and fat qualities of potato chips. *Naan* (garlic, onion or plain), a tasty Indian bread, is a great appetizer for a subsequently great meal. If you are looking for a dish that is outside of your comfort zone, then try ordering the lamb *khorma* and chicken *marsala*. However, if you want something more traditional, then try the chicken *tandori*,

which is a plate similar to barbeque. The rice served at the Taste of India is called basmati rice, and it is not like Uncle Ben's rice; it is very tasty and smells delicious. If you are looking for a beef dish, then do not go here. The cow is considered sacred in India, and therefore it is not served in Indian restaurants. But do not let this discourage you from going-- the food here is magnificent.

Address:  
1805 Church Street  
Nashville, TN 37203

### Miss Saigon - Vietnamese Cuisine

Located on Charlotte near the old Kroger, Miss Saigon can be easily recognized by a blue lit sign reading "Miss Saigon." The restaurant is clean, and the people are warm and friendly. I recommend that you order the clear spring rolls as an appetizer -- they're fresh and tasty. Then, as the main course, I recommend getting one of the many beef vermicelli dishes, which are similar to soupy pasta and are delicious. If you order by the number on the menu, then you can cut the language barrier. Following your delicious dinner, you can sing karaoke on a full stomach.

Address:  
5849 Charlotte Pike  
Nashville, TN 37209

### Siam Café - Thai Cuisine

In my opinion, this restaurant has the best Thai food anywhere. Billy, the manager, will always greet you with a smile on his face, and Noi will add

excitement to your table as your waiter. You will not be able to find guys like them in the corporate structure of a big franchise restaurant. Despite ordering the same meal every time we go to the Siam Café, my family and I never get tired of it.

I recommend that you order the chicken rice soup with spring rolls as an appetizer. Then, as the main meal, order the pork curry, chicken basil, and tiger tear, which is a beef salad. The food will be served to you quickly, depending on how many people are eating there that particular night. Also, keep in mind that a majority of the food at the Siam Café is very spicy, but it is all very tasty and healthy.

Address:  
316 McCall Street  
Nashville, TN 37211

It's clear from this sampling of restaurants that good ethnic food is readily available in our area. Challenge your taste buds to a global change of pace -- they'll be glad you did.

## Football Workouts

Continued from page 8

practice on it anytime and all the time, maintenance is nothing in the off-season, and it's such a spectacle from row 17 of the bleachers. However, it requires truck loads of tiny bits of rubber. The rubber absorbs the heat and does, in fact, make the field hotter. Said comeback/running back E.J. Vinsang on a positive advantage of the new field, "You can fly! It's a lot faster than regular grass." Outside linebacker Dane Daniels commented that "It's hotter, but it doesn't hurt as much when you fall."

After a full practice of hitting, agonizing heat, bruises, and sore muscles, it's time to hit the showers. After a five-minute wait and a quick shower, the only activity we can do before the afternoon practice is rest as much as possible. Many players go to Jersey Mike's after practice; some have food at home. One common thread in talks with players is sleep from

## Landis

Continued from page 9

automobiles. Anyone whose name is Floyd and lives in an Amish-like community can't possibly have anything to do with any illegal, "modern" substances. You can put me on record when I say that no other Mennonite has ever been accused of drug doping during an international sporting event.

## Don't Forget...

### The 7th Annual MBA Carnival and Picnic

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11:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m., an attempt to regain lost strength and energy

The afternoon practice is very similar to the morning session, only fifteen degrees hotter. Since practice ends at 6:00, we cannot stay out late because if

we did, waking up at 5:45 would be nearly impossible. The cycle is simple: football, food, sleep, football, food, and sleep...for eight days.

Why do we put ourselves through the struggle, the agony? Sure, we all like the game, but basically and essentially, it's all for Friday night, the game and the lights, and, yes, it's all worth it.



## The Staff Reviews Summer Movies

### Thomas Picks Two Winners

by Kevin Thomas  
Entertainment Editor

***A Prairie Home Companion*** – 4.0 out of 4.0 stars (Rated PG-13 for risqué humor)

Starring Woody Harrelson (*The People vs. Larry Flint*, *Natural Born Killers*), John C. Reilly (*Boogie Nights*, *Magnolia*), Kevin Kline (*The Big Chill*), Virginia Madsen (*Sideways*), Lily Tomlin (*Nashville*, *Short Cuts*), and Meryl Streep (*The Deer Hunter*), this beautiful film about the closing radio show, called "A Prairie Home Companion," is replete with an array of comic characters, country music, and even death.

Prior to even seeing this film, I knew that it would be a great movie because Robert Altman was the director. *Nashville*, arguably his best picture, is similar to *A Prairie Home Companion* in that it features country music throughout the movie. Since you all live in or close to Nashville, you should definitely see the film *Nashville*. I also highly recommend seeing McCabe & Mrs. Miller, *Short Cuts*, and *M\*A\*S\*H*.

Furthermore, I now have a new-found respect for Lindsay Lohan, who was outstanding in this movie. I had previously found her to be an obnoxious pop-star, but I now find her to be a terrific actress. She plays a dark, suicide-obsessed teenager with a loving and compassionate side.

The film was shot with great authenticity. For example, the opening shot reminds me of the painting *Nighthawks* by Edward Hopper. The sequence features a man (Kevin Kline), who is wearing a 1930s hat and a suit, coming out of a diner and going to the show. Also, the top-notch acting adds to the authenticity. Lily Tomlin and Meryl Streep are especially convincing as sisters who perform together. Woody Harrelson and John C. Reilly, who play a humorous duet of country singers, are equally convincing. Moreover, all the actors perform their own songs on stage, so there is no lip-synching in this movie, making it even more authentic.



The cast bids Valeté

*A Prairie Home Companion* will most likely be one of the best films of 2006. I strongly recommend that you either rent this movie when it is released on DVD or even buy it. I promise that you will be stunned at how magnificent a film it truly is. "What a lovely film this is, so gentle and whimsical, so simple and profound," says Roger Ebert of the *Chicago-Sun Times*, and I completely agree. A movie like this proves that films do not need violence, sex, and strong language to be great.

***Caché (Hidden)*** – 4.0 out of 4.0 stars (Rated R for brief strong violence)

Starring Juliette Binoche (*Chocolat*, *Blue*) and Daniel Auteuil (*The Closet*, *Queen Margot*), this French psychological thriller is about an ordinary family who begins to receive disturbing videos of their house. At first, they have no idea who is sending them these threatening videos, but Daniel Auteuil's character, Georges, eventually discovers who it is and refuses to tell his wife (Juliette Binoche). Georges is also constantly haunted by his past, with creepy recurring images in his mind.

Directed by Michael Haneke, *Caché* is a very well-done movie with superb acting and camera-work. Even if you have no interest in France or French people, I still highly recommend that you see this film. It is a powerful, disturbing thriller with an unexpected twist in the plot. The film is also great because it leaves the viewer hanging at the end, and it makes you think about the movie as a whole after seeing it. Look closely at the final shot of the film, and you will find a missing piece of the mysterious puzzle. Keep in mind that this thriller is no longer in the theaters, so you must rent it if you would like to see it.

### Colton Explores a Revolution in Filmmaking

by Jesse Colton  
Staff Writer

Since the dawn of time, no movie has dared to go where *Snakes on a Plane* has gone. Wait, I'm getting ahead of myself. Let me start by saying *Snakes on a Plane* was the best experience of my life.

Descriptions of why it was a good movie are entirely unnecessary. Why bother explaining the greatness of Samuel L. Jackson's harpooning a snake? Why bother explaining the greatness of Samuel L. Jackson? Why bother explaining the greatness of harpoons? We would be wasting your time.

Although the acting, plot, music, special effects, editing, and costumes were all horrendously awful, the movie transcends these meaningless flaws. I ask you this, gentlemen: Why see a movie that is complicated and deep? Is it because you want to come out of the theater moved? Or come out of the theater a better person? Or come out of the theater knowing that the movie was "high quality"?

*Snakes on a Plane* is like concentrated joy, a truly and completely metaphysical experience. What more do you want out of a movie? What can

possibly be more enriching than Samuel L. Jackson combating an army of poisonous snakes... on a plane?! Just to prove this film's domination, read the following: *Rated R for Language, A Scene of Sexuality and Drug Use, and Intense*



This passenger is not having a good day

*Sequences of Terror and Violence. Read that last part again. It says "Intense Sequences of Terror and Violence".*

This movie is not for the weak, mind you, but I have confidence that a solid, Montgomery Bell Academy student can handle this package of awesomeness. *Snakes on a Plane* is the movie of the summer. What can possibly be a better use of your eight bucks and two hours? Go see this movie. Now. 5 stars out of 4.

*Note from the editor: Most professional movie critics would rate this movie 1 star out of 4, but most professional movie critics are weak.*

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## From the Mind of Everitte Barbee

